

Executive Office of Public Safety Newsletter, October 2006



The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

EOPS Announcements

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety's Homeland Security Division invites your municipality to take part in the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program. The HDER program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Navy, and the Health Physics Society. The program is designed to place surplus federal radiation detection equipment in the hands of emergency responder agencies and to provide training on the equipment to designated personnel at no cost. Through the HDER program, responder agencies across the state now have access to a substantial inventory of radiological detection instrumentation and other rehabilitated equipment.

For more information contact Chris Beaurpere at (617) 725-3327

Funding Opportunities

Fiscal Year 2007 Community Policing Funding

Application Deadline: October 10, 2006

The Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the State-funded Community Policing Grant Program for fiscal year 2007. The funds are intended to enable police departments to develop comprehensive Community Policing strategies tailored to address the particular needs of their communities and address crime, fear of crime, and issues that detract from the overall quality of life. All eligibility letters were mailed to the Chiefs of Police on September 19, 2006. Please download the application and refer to your eligibility letter/award amount.

For more information: <http://www.mass.gov/eopsfunding>
click on Law Enforcement

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YouthRising Program

Application Deadline: October 12, 2006

“Youth Service America and the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention are announcing the launch of the YouthRising Grant Program. Grants in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded for organizations to engage high-risk and/or gang-involved youth in service. The goal of this initiative is to design and implement appropriate and creative service projects that engage youth in service and develop their capacity for leadership and civic engagement.”

For more information: http://www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm#nowavailable

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Graduate Research Fellowship 2007

Application Deadline: November 28, 2006

“The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking applicants for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, an NIJ annual program that provides dissertation research support to outstanding doctoral students undertaking independent research on issues related to crime and justice. Students from any academic discipline are encouraged to apply and propose original research that has direct implications for criminal justice. NIJ encourages diversity in approaches and perspectives in its research programs.”

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/SL000747.pdf>

Research and Publications

Criminal Victimization, 2005

This recently released Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report presents counts and rates of personal and property victimization for 2005. These estimates are generated from data collected from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), an ongoing survey that interviews approximately 134,000 persons in 77,200 households annually. Counts and rates are provided for personal and property victimization by victim characteristics, type of crime, victim-offender relationship, use of weapons, and reporting to police. Trends in victimization are included as well as a comparison of annual average victimization rates for 2004-2005 with those of the previous two years, 2002-2003.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cv05.htm>

Lessons Learned From 9/11: DNA Identification in Mass Fatality Incidents

This recently released National Institute of Justice (NIJ) report contains lessons learned regarding DNA protocols, lab techniques, and statistical approaches in the DNA identification of World Trade Center victims. The report discusses the incorporation of DNA identification into a mass fatality identification plan, including how to: establish laboratory policies and procedures; assess the magnitude of an identification effort and identify and acquire resources to respond; identify reference and kinship samples; create a comprehensive laboratory management plan; and establish lines of communication between agencies, departments, victims' families, and the press.

Access full text at: <http://massfatality.dna.gov/>

Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs, 2nd Edition COPS Guide

This Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) guide addresses the problem of clandestine methamphetamine labs. Included is a general overview of the methamphetamine problem and responses to it, a list of factors that increase risks, and a series of questions that will help agencies analyze their local problems.

Access full text at: <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=274>

Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates

This Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report presents estimates of the prevalence of mental health problems among prison and jail inmates using self-reported data on recent history and symptoms of mental disorders. Findings are based on the Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities, 2004, and the Survey of Inmates in Local Jails, 2002. The characteristics of offenders with a mental health problem are compared to those without. Characteristics examined include: current offense, criminal record, sentence length, time expected to be served, co-occurring substance dependence or abuse, family background, and facility conduct since current admission.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/mhppji.htm>

National Evaluation of the Title V Community Prevention Grants Program

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) report presents findings from a national evaluation of the Title V Community Prevention Grants Program. Specifically, the report examines how sites in six states were affected by the program, including the benefits they received and the challenges they encountered. The report also analyzes efforts by the national evaluation team to design and implement a national assessment.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=233687>

Conferences and Trainings

Justice Research and Statistics: Informing Effective Policy

October 12-13, 2006 in Denver, CO

The annual Bureau of Justice Statistics/Justice Research and Statistics Association conference will focus on using data and statistics to inform effective policy. Session topics include: identity theft, courts and sentencing, human trafficking, drugs, juvenile justice and domestic and sexual violence.

For more information: <http://www.jrsa.org/events/conference/index.html>

International Child & Adolescent Conference XIII: Research-based Practices to Improve Learning and Social Outcomes for Students

October 12-14, 2006 in Minneapolis, MN

This conference, presented by the Behavioral Institute for Children and Adolescents, will provide innovative, practical strategies for those who work with children and youth who present challenging behaviors. Session topics are designed for teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, program specialists, school psychologists, school counselors, social workers, law enforcement, and university faculty. Session topics include how to: develop school-wide discipline and behavior intervention plans, teach and increase academic skills, teach and increase social skills, support and collaborate with general education teachers and families, implement and evaluate intervention plans, and develop and implement effective career and transition programs.

For more information: <http://www.behavioralinstitute.org/ICAC/ICACConference2006.htm>

113th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference (IACP)

October 14-18, 2006 in Boston, MA

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference is only open to IACP members and their guests. The annual IACP gathering allows professionals to examine the state of the police industry through seminars, forums and technical workshops. These sessions feature critical issues relevant to today's law enforcement professional and provide solutions to manage these challenges.

For more information: <http://www.theiacpconference.org/>

Moving Together, 2006

October 18, 2006 in Boston, MA

Moving Together is being presented by the Baystate Roads Program and funded in part by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Federal Highway Administration. This event will join people from across the Commonwealth to work towards improving bicycle and walking conditions locally. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss shared experiences and strategies during various workshops on current issues and initiatives.

For more information: http://www.ecs.umass.edu/baystate_roads//mt/index.html

American Society of Criminology: Democracy, Crime and Justice

November 1-4, 2006 in Los Angeles, CA

The American Society of Criminology invites all practitioners, academics and students to discuss the measurement and detection of crime and the practice of criminal law. Conference sessions will cover topics such as: criminological theory, drugs and substance abuse, firearms and violence, policing, courts and the law, sexual assault, crime prevention, juvenile justice, and criminal justice policy.

For more information: <http://www.asc41.com/>

National Conference on Science, Technology and the Law

November 2-5, 2006 in St. Petersburg, FL

This National Institute of Justice event presents emerging trends in the use of scientific evidence in the courtroom. This event is designed to improve the understanding of the interaction of science, technology and law among scientists, law enforcement, attorneys, and judges and facilitate further discussion of emerging legal and scientific issues.

For more information: <http://ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/ncstl/welcome.html>

Program Evaluation

November 7-8, 2006 in Nashville, TN

This Office for Victims of Crime conference presents evaluation as a tool that managers can use to determine whether their programs are achieving their stated goals and objectives. This event is designed to give victim service agencies the information, skills, and tools needed to participate in the planning and implementation of ongoing evaluation of their services.

For more information: <http://www.ovcttac.org/calendar/training.cfm>

5th New England Rural Domestic Violence Forum

November 14-15, 2006 in Northampton, MA

This event, sponsored by the Massachusetts Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project, will provide opportunities for critical thinking about emerging issues, networking and problem solving. Session topics include: innovative community engagement strategies to end family violence, trauma informed practice: working with survivors with mental health and substance abuse challenges, secondary traumatic stress and self care, and economic empowerment for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. For more information contact the Massachusetts Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Project of the MA Department of Public Health at 413-586-7525 and ask for Amy Waldman or Jessica Grasmere.

The State of Crime and Justice in America

November 27-29, 2006 in Nashville, TN

December 4-6, 2006 in Phoenix, AZ

January 8-10, 2007 in Columbus, OH

January 25-26, 2007 in Baltimore, MD

This Bureau of Justice Assistance conference brings together practitioners, policy makers, and BJA leadership to explore critical issues in law enforcement and criminal justice. Session topics include: human trafficking, sex offender management, pandemic, gangs, meth, homicide clearance, identity theft/white collar crime, public surveillance, counter-terrorism, problem solving courts (drug, family, mentally ill), information sharing, and law enforcement leadership.

For more information: <http://www.ncja.org/Content/NavigationMenu/EducationEvents/BJARegionalMeetingSeries/default.htm>

Innovations in Justice, Information Sharing Strategies and Best Practices

November 28-30, 2006 in San Diego, CA

February 6-8, 2007 in Houston, TX

March 27-29, 2007 in Minneapolis, MN

June 4-6, 2007 in Jacksonville, FL

This Bureau of Justice Assistance conference will help participants explore, and better understand how to plan, manage, and implement technology solutions for information sharing systems. Experts will discuss the latest innovative solutions in justice and public safety information sharing, including key developments in: information sharing policy, privacy and security, coordinating broad-based information sharing initiatives, U.S. Department of Justice Global Justice XML Data Model implementation, and latest technologies and standards.

For more information: <http://www.search.org/conferences/2006reginfosharing/>

In The News

Crime in the United States, Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, September 18, 2006

According to recently released FBI statistics, violent crime in the United States rose 2.3 percent and property crime fell 1.5 percent in 2005. The report says that even though violent crime totals increased since 2004, they have dropped 3.4 percent since 2001 and 17.6 percent since 1996. Burglaries were the only property crime to increase in 2005, up 0.5 percent from the previous year. Of the 14.1 million arrests made by law enforcement in 2005, drug violations made up the largest offense category.

Access full text at: <http://www.fbi.gov/page2/september06/crimeintheus091806.htm>

Scrutiny of Criminals Heats Up Race

***The Boston Globe*, September 26, 2006**

According to *The Boston Globe*, for years, state lawmakers and social activists have tried to limit distribution of criminal background information, saying they want to help people get another chance. The fight over the Criminal Offender Records Information law, or CORI, has emerged as an issue in the governor's race. More than 11,000 employers have access to CORI records, and the majority of them serve vulnerable populations such as nursing homes and schools.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/politics/candidates/articles/2006/09/24/scrutiny_of_criminals_heats_up_race/

Victim Families Get More Boston Police Attention

***The Boston Globe*, September 26, 2006**

According to *The Boston Globe*, Boston police are trying to improve community relations and help fight the rising toll of homicides by giving more help to the victim's families. Boston is one of the few major police departments across the U.S. with trained victim advocates in the homicide unit.

Advocates work to stem angry relatives' impulse for retaliatory violence by referring survivors to social service agencies where they can find grief counseling and other services.

Access full text at: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2006/09/26/as_slayings_mount_hub_police_reaching_out_to_the_bereaved/

State Corrections Chief Lauds Jail Efforts

***The Republican*, September 27, 2006**

According to *The Republican*, the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Correction praised the Northhampton local correctional community for their effort in helping inmates reintegrate into the community after they are released from jail. The treatment program at the facility consists of three phases and includes community accountability and life skills programs as well as a pre-release program that involves community service.

Access full text at: <http://www.masslive.com/springfield/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-6/115934381298360.xml&coll=1>

Contact Information

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us
Subscription details:

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